Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

FARM *FACTS*

Locating Manure Stockpiles

Producers using a solid manure system for their livestock or poultry operations may need to stockpile manure prior to field application. Stockpiling can be a safe and acceptable manure management practice, but some precautions are required. These guidelines are for short-term stockpiling of solid manure, prior to field application.

Surface Water Protection
Runoff from stockpiles should remain on the property. Select sites where runoff is self-contained or construct a retention dyke around the pile. Locate piles away from water runs and divert surface water away from stockpiles.

Manure stockpiles should be located to maintain the Minimum Recommended Separation Distances for Spreading Manure with no incorporation, as outlined in the table.

Ground Water Protection
Locate stockpiles in locations where there are clay or till subsurface soils.

Avoid stockpiling manure in locations where subsurface soils are known to be sandy. Do not stockpile manure over a surficial aquifer or within 30 metres of a water well.

A review of well logs for the area will provide general data on subsurface soil conditions and the depth of aquifers (useable groundwater) in the area.

Water well logs are available from SaskWater.

Test holes will provide valuable information if there is any doubt about the subsurface soil type or the presence of shallow water bearing formations.

Stockpile Management
Spread the manure within one year of being stockpiled and leave the site as clean as possible. Rotate the areas where stockpiles are located.

Obtain an analysis of the nutrient content of the manure prior to spreading. Spread the manure according to the nutrient requirements of the crop to be grown on the field.

Information on developing a manure management plan is available from Saskatchewan Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization. Follow accepted management guidelines for environmental protection and to minimize nuisance when spreading manure.

Minimum recommended separation distances for spreading manure are listed in the table.

Visibility
Locate stockpiles where they are not readily visible.

Use natural features, such as trees and hills, to screen stockpiles from well-travelled roads.

Public Process
Trucks hauling the manure to stockpiles will be visible to neighbours, and this may have implications for the local municipality.

Informing neighbours and the municipality of your plans may help to prevent complaints.

Minimum Recommeded Separation Distances for Spreading Manure (Metres)

For Public Comfort	Injected	Incorporated within 24hrs	No Incorporation
Population			
1-1000	200	400	800
1001-5000	400	800	1200
>5001	400	800	1600
For Water Protection			
Domestic groundwater supply on land not controlled by the operator.	100	100	100
Watercourse or body of water not contained on land controlled by the operator to which runoff water will not flow.	30	30	30
Watercourse or body of water not contained on land controlled by the operator to which runoff water will flow.	30	150	300

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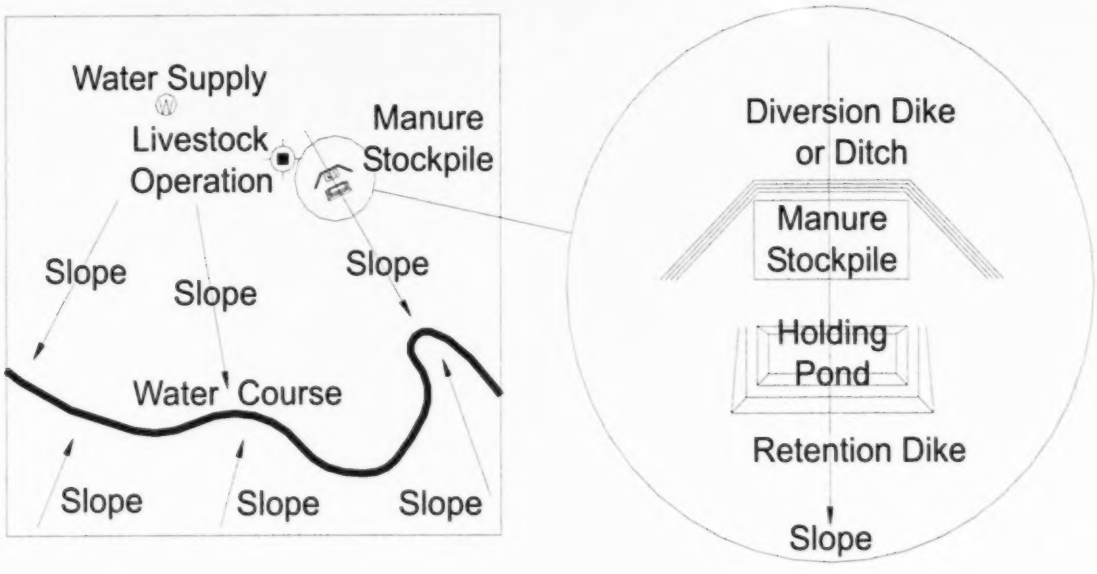
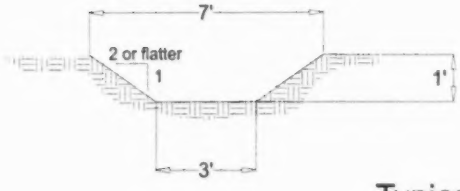
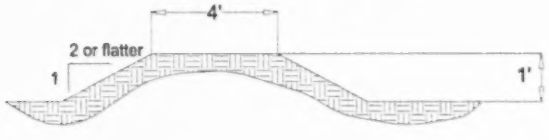


Diversion Ditch



Diversion or Retention Dike



Typical Diversion Structures

Agricultural Operations Regional Specialists

Yorkton
Brian Campbell, P. Eng.
Phone (306) 786-1505

Darren Stovin, E.I.T.
Phone (306) 786-5835

Rural Service Centre
38 - 5th Avenue North
Yorkton SK
S3N 0Y8

Fax (306) 786-1511

Saskatoon
Ken McKnight, P. Eng.
Phone (306) 933-5322

Wendi Dehod, E.I.T.
Phone (306) 933-8343

Rural Service Centre
3830 Thatcher Avenue
Saskatoon SK
S7K 2H6

Fax (306) 933-5715

Weyburn
Randy Vopni, P. Ag.
Phone (306) 848-2379

Lisa White, E.I.T.
Phone (306) 848-2833

Rural Service Centre
110 Souris Avenue
Weyburn SK
S4H 2Z9

Fax (306) 848-2454

Inspection and Regulatory Management Branch
Agricultural Operations
3085 Albert Street
REGINA, SK S4S 0B1
(306) 787-4680
www.agr.gov.sk.ca

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